**COMPARISON RWA V BCA**  (Custer-Gallatin NF draft ROD)

Key: (stronger protections/ weakened protections)

**RWA Desired Conditions (FW-DC-RWA)**

01 Recommended wilderness areas maintain their existing wilderness characteristics, to preserve opportunities for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

02 Recommended wilderness areas provide outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation. Impacts from visitor use do not detract from the natural setting.

03 Recommended wilderness areas are characterized by a natural environment where ecological processes such as natural succession, wildfire, avalanches, insects and disease function as the primary forces affecting the environment.

04 System trails support wilderness experiences and preserve wilderness characteristics.

05 Outfitter and guide recreation special uses support identified public need and provide service for realizing the recreational purposes of the recommended wilderness areas.

**BCA Desired Conditions (FW-DC-BCA)**

01 Natural processes play their role and human use leaves little permanent or long-lasting evidence.

**RWA Standards (FW-STD-RWA)**

01 New permanent or temporary roads shall not be allowed. [[1]](#footnote-1)

02 New energy or utility structures shall not be allowed.

03 New commercial communication sites shall not be allowed.

04 New developed recreation sites shall not be allowed.

05 New recreation events shall not be authorized.

06 Extraction of saleable mineral materials shall not be allowed. This standard does not apply to permitted collection of petrified wood in the Gallatin Petrified Forest Special Management Zone.

**BCA Standards**(FW-STD-BCA)

01 New energy or utility structures shall not be allowed.

02 New commercial communication sites shall not be allowed.

03 New developed recreation sites shall not be allowed.

04 Extraction of saleable mineral materials shall not be allowed.

05 New special uses shall be compatible with management of the backcountry area character.

06 Exceptions to the backcountry area standards in chapter 2 and chapter 3 shall be allowed to provide for reasonable access and mining activities pursuant to the 1872 mining law. New access to and development of minerals shall minimize impacts to backcountry areas.

**RWA Suitability (FW-SUIT-RWA)**

01 Recommended wilderness areas are not suitable for timber production or timber harvest.

02 Recommended wilderness areas are not suitable for motorized or mechanized transport.

03 Recommended wilderness areas are suitable for low impact restoration activities that move toward desired conditions (such as prescribed fires, active weed management, planting) and that protect and enhance the wilderness characteristics of these areas.

04 Permitted livestock use is suitable in those portions of recommended wilderness areas where grazing is authorized by permit prior to the area being identified as recommended wilderness.

05 Recommended wilderness areas are not suitable for developed recreation sites, such as recreation rental cabins.

06 Administrative facilities are suitable only for the purposes of administration of the recommended wilderness areas.

07 Recommended wilderness areas are not suitable for commercial communication facilities.

08 Recommended wilderness areas are not suitable for recreational and commercial drone launching and landings.

**BCA Suitability (FW-SUIT-BCA)**

01 The backcountry areas are not suitable for timber production. Vegetation management, including timber harvest, is suitable for purposes such as fuels reduction, restoration, or wildlife habitat enhancement.

**RWA Guidelines (FW-GDL-RWA)**

01 To maintain limits on structures in recommended wilderness, new range improvements associated

with existing allotments should be authorized only for the purpose of enhancing wilderness

characteristics or for resource protection.

**BCA Guidelines (FW-GDL-BCA)**

01 To maintain the predominantly unroaded and nonmotorized character, new structural range improvements should be located in areas that avoid the need to permit motorized access to areas with no permitted motorized access.

1. Lionhead BCA has a unique standard that bans ban temporary or permanent roads. (below) It may not affect mining. Timber harvest (logging) is allowed in BCA. They say no motors which would mean no ebikes. but how will they enforce it? My guess is they won’t. Races and events are allowed. Bad news for CDNST. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)